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14	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
15	FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA	
16	IN RE: Bard IVC Filters Products Liability Litigation,	No. 2:15-MD-02641-DGC
17		DEFENDANTS' MOTION AND NCORPORATED MEMORANDUM
18	T	TO SEAL RELATING TO PLAINTIFFS' OMNIBUS NOTICE OF
19		LODGING DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL RELATED TO PLAINTIFFS'
20		RESPONSES TO DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS TO EXCLUDE
21		PLAINTIFFS' EXPERTS
22		(Assigned to the Honorable David G. Campbell)
23		Campoen)
24		
25	Defendants C. R. Bard, Inc. and Bard Peripheral Vascular, Inc. (collectively	
26	"Bard" or "Defendants") hereby respectfully move this Court for an order, pursuant to the	
27	Stipulated Protective Order (Dkt 269), Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c)(1)(G), and	
28	Local Civil Rule 5.6 sealing certain documents lodged under seal by Plaintiffs in response	
	II	

to Bard's Motions to Disqualify Plaintiffs' Experts. In an Ominbus Notice, Plaintiffs lodged the responses redacted and the documents relating to all their responses ("the Documents at Issue"). (Dkt. 7815). Exhibit A to that Omnibus Notice is attached along with an indication of whether Bard is filing the document redacted or not seeking that it be sealed. Bard has redacted all of the Documents at issue that it seeks to remain sealed, and has filed the documents redacted. See, Dkt 8118-8122.

#### **ARGUMENT AND CITATION OF AUTHORITY**

The Documents at issue and responses that are filed redacted and the subject of this Motion to Seal constitute trade secrets or other confidential research, development, or commercial information thereby warranting protection from public disclosure for a discovery related motion. Accordingly, there is good cause to grant Bard's Motion to Seal. Bard notes that the parties are continuing to confer about the confidential documents.

# A. The Documents at Issue are "Confidential Information" Pursuant to the Stipulation for Protective Order, and Therefore They Should be Sealed

The Court has entered a Stipulated Protective Order to protect public disclosure of "Confidential Information," which includes any "trade secret' or other confidential research, development, or commercial information' that is suitable for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c)(1)(G)" Stipulated Protective Order (Doc. 269 ¶¶ 1, 2.) Bard has designated the Documents at Issue in this motion as "CONFIDENTIAL" where those documents have been produced during discovery. (Id. ¶ 6). As to Documents at Issue that have not been produced during discovery, Bard maintains that such documents are "Confidential" and thus likewise designates them as "CONFIDENTIAL." Finally, the Stipulated Protective Order states "All Confidential Information shall be used for the purpose of this lawsuit only . . . except as permitted by this Order." (Id. ¶ 12). These types of provisions are common in legal proceedings and are routinely enforced.

See, e.g., Culinary Foods, Inc. v. Raychem Corp., 151 F.RD. 297, 307 (N.D. Ill. 1993) ("We hold that confidential information obtained by Culinary in this litigation may

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not be disseminated to litigants in other cases against Raychem."); cf Smithkline Beecham Corp. v. Synthon Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 210 F.RD. 163, 169 (M.D.N.C. 2002) (refusing to modify protective order to allow plaintiffs to use confidential documents in other litigation). Thus, the Court should grant Bard's Motion to Seal to maintain the confidentiality afforded by the Stipulated Protective Order to the Documents at Issue.

**B.** The Documents at Issue Warrant Protection Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. as Trade Secrets or Other Confidential Research, Development or Commercial Information, and Would Cause Bard **Competitive Harm if Made Public** 

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c)(1)(G) provides that the Court may, for good cause, "issue an order to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense, including . . . (G) requiring that a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information . . . be revealed only in a specified way." "Good cause" exists when disclosure will result in "a clearly defined and serious injury to the party" seeking closure. Blanchard & Co., Inc. v. Barrick Gold Corp., No. 02-3721, 2004 WL 737485, at \*5 (E.D. La. Apr. 5, 2004) (citing Pansy v. Borough of Stroudsburg, 23 F.3d 772, 786 (3d Cir. 1994)). In determining whether "good cause" exists, the court "must balance the requesting party's need for information against the injury that might result if uncontrolled disclosure is compelled." Id. The Court has wide discretion in determining the scope of an order protecting confidential research, development, or commercial information. See id.

The information contained in the Documents at Issue includes confidential business information and correspondence concerning Bard's processes, procedures, methods, and corrective action strategies, policies, and procedures. The Documents at Issue represent the implementation of these processes, procedures, and policies, which Bard has in part developed to comply with the technical requirements provided for by the FDA and/or Bard's internal requirements. See id.

Given the time and money that Bard has invested in developing its evaluative and investigative processes, as well as its processes for regulatory and internal policy

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compliance, competitor medical device companies would gain an unfair economic advantage if they gained access to Bard's commercial information, thereby causing Bard real and tangible harm in the highly competitive medical device industry. Moreover, because of the economic injury that Bard would sustain if its internal documents were available to competitors, Bard seeks to protect the confidentiality of material like the Documents at Issue whenever its internal documents are at issue in a litigation.<sup>1</sup>

Finally, because the documents at issue do not relate to motions that requires judicial resolution of this case on the merits, there is no general First Amendment right to access the Documents at Issue. See, e.g., Chi. Tribune Co. v. Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., 263 F.3d 1304, 1312–13 (11th Cir. 2001) (finding that "material filed with discovery motions is not subject to the common-law right of access, whereas discovery material filed in connection with pretrial motions that require judicial resolution of the merits is subject to the common-law right"); United States v. Wolfson, 55 F.3d 58, 61 (2d Cir. 1995) ("We are not aware . . . of any common-law principle that documents submitted to a court in camera for the sole purpose of confirming that the refusal to disclose them to another party was proper, are to be deemed judicial records open to the public."); The Courier-Journal v. Marshall, 828 F.2d 361, 363 (6th Cir. 1987) (newspapers had no first amendment right of access to discovery materials, despite the recognition that "proceedings [were] of intense public concern").

For each of these reasons, Bard has met the good cause standard for protection of its documents by showing that public disclosure of the Documents at Issue will cause a clearly defined injury to Bard. See Shell Exploration & Prod. Co. v. Robinson, No. CIV.A. 01-1417, 2001 WL 1490954 (E.D. La. Nov. 20, 2001) (finding that good cause existed for sealing judicial record "out of an abundance of caution in order to protect trade

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Therefore, Bard has taken reasonable efforts to maintain confidentiality of these documents and they should remain confidential. See In re Denture Cream Products Liab. Litig., 09-2051-MD, 2013 WL 214672 (S.D. Fla. Jan. 18, 2013) (finding documents confidential in part because the defendant "consistently treated the information as closely guarded secrets").

secrets" even when the testimony at issue "would not be particularly illuminating," the "testimony did not specify any particular trade secrets"). Accordingly, the Court should grant Bard's Unopposed Motion to Seal.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, the Documents at Issue warrant protection as confidential research, development, or commercial information pursuant to Rule 26(c)(1)(G). Accordingly, the Court should grant Bard's Motion to Seal.

DATED this 11th day of October, 2016.

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on October 11, 2017, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

#### s/Elizabeth C. Helm

Elizabeth C. Helm Georgia Bar No. 289930

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